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## STATE OF VERMONT

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY** SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND **WELFARE** 

April 5, 2022

Mark Levine, MD, Commissioner of Health Department of Health 108 Cherry Street, Suite 301 Burlington, VT 05402

Re: Unused Prescription Drug Repository Program Study

Dear Dr. Levine:

The Senate Committee on Health and Welfare recently considered Senate Bill No. 243, An act relating to implementation of an unused prescription drug repository program. This bill, if passed, would require the Agency of Human Services to evaluate and provide to the General Assembly its findings regarding the feasibility of implementing an unused prescription drug repository program to accept and dispense donated prescription drugs and supplies to Vermont residents.

We agree that this information will be important when considering future legislative action on this issue. However, your Senior Policy and Legal Advisor, David Englander, informed us that the Department of Health does not need this bill to pursue the feasibility analysis and assured us of the Department's intent to perform this research with or without legislation. Therefore, we have determined that legislative action is not necessary at this time and respectfully request that the Department of Health undertake the feasibility analysis described in S.243 and provide the General Assembly with its findings and recommendations prior to the beginning of the 2023 legislative session. We look forward to continuing our discussion with the Department and other interested stakeholders in the near future regarding the implementation of an unused prescription drug repository program for Vermont.

Sincerely,

Senator Ginny Lyons, Chair Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

Cc: David Englander, Senior Policy and Legal Advisor